

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

FEA-02 OMB-01 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-10 /242 R

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APPROVED BY EB/OT/TA:JWHOLMES

EB/TA:WTADAMS

EUR/RPE:RMEIMA

AGRICULTURE:RPLANK

COMMERCE:WKRIST

TREASURY:WBARREDA

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R 222336Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOM

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC, EFTA

SUBJECT: EFTA AND EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: GENEVA 1746, STATE 51450

1. PROCEDURE OUTLINED PARA 3 REFTEL SATISFACTORY. IN DRAFTING LETTER, MISSION SHOULD AVOID ISSUE OF WHETHER OR NOT U.S IS OBLIGED TO NOTIFY ACCEPTANCE.

2. RE PARA 5 REFTEL, MISSION SHOULD REQUEST SECRETARIAT TO CONVENE INFORMAL MEETING OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED TO FIX DATE FOR START OF CONSULTATIONS. OUR PREFERENCE WOULD BE APRIL 30 (IF NECESSARY, APRIL 29) OR EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE THEREAFTER. WE ENVISAGE THREE DAY MEETING. FIRST TWO DAYS WOULD CONSIST OF CONSULTATIONS WITH EFTA COUNTRIES ON OPERATION OF OLD EFTA ORIGIN RULES (ORS) AND COMPARISON OF OLD AND REVISED EFTA ORS. U.S. WILL SUBMIT PAPER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS DISCUSSION. EC NEED NOT PARTICIPATE BUT MAY DO SO IF THEY DESIRE. THIRD DAY WOULD INITIATE CONSULTATIONS WITH EC AND EFTA COUNTRIES ON EC/EFTA ORS. DURING THIRD DAY WE PLAN ONLY TO DISCUSS NATURE OF AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR FULL WEEK MEETING IN JUNE ON EFTA AND EC/EFTA ORS.

3. FYI: CURRENT THINKING ON THIRD DAY OF INITIAL MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS: WE WOULD

(A) INFORM PARTIES THAT U.S. WILL SUBMIT TWO PAPERS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE JUNE MEETING. THE FIRST WILL OUTLINE OUR ECONOMIC CASE AGAINST THE EFTA AND EC/EFTA ORS AND THE SECOND WILL DEAL WITH THE EFFECTS OF THE ORS ON US TRADE. (WE WILL
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ENCOURAGE THE FRIENDLIES--ESPECIALLY CANADA AND JAPAN--TO SUBMIT SIMILAR PAPERS ON THE EFFECTS OF ORS ON THEIR TRADE.)

(B) ASK THE GATT SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE A PAPER FOR DISCUSSION AT THE JUNE MEETING ON THE NEGOTIATING HISTORY AND INTERPRETATION OF GATT PROVISIONS RELATING TO ORS.

(C) EXPLORE WAYS OF ANALYZING TARIFF DIFFERENTIALS
AND POTENTIAL TRADE DEFLECTION AMONG EFTA AND
EC/EFTA COUNTRIES.

RE POINT (C), IF WE ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN RELEVANT TARIFF
CONCORDANCES WE MAY PROPOSE THAT THE GATT SECRETARIAT
CARRY OUT A SPECIFIC STUDY OR, ALTERNATIVELY, INFORM THE
GROUP THAT WE WILL DO A STUDY AND SUBMIT IT LATER FOR
DISCUSSION. IF CONCORDANCES ARE NOT AVAILABLE WE MAY SIM-
PLY MAKE A STATEMENT PUTTING THE BURDEN INITIALLY ON THE
EC/EFTA COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE RELEVANT DATA. - END FYI.

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